Turnover tax levied on drugs by State Governments

3526. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many State Governments are levying turnover tax on drugs which is a price controlled commodity; and

(b) if so, whether Government would come forward either to advice the State Governments for withdrawing such levy or to incorporate the same in the MAPE allowed to manufacturers under DPCO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) There is no such information.

(b) Does not arise.

Mutual fund business by the private sector units

3527. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in "The Hindustan Times" of the 14th February, 1989 to the effect that private sector units may be allowed by Government to enter Mutual Fund Business in order to provide greater competition and efficiency in the conduct of Mutual Fund Business; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Government has not allowed private sector units to enter the mutual fund activity.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Setting up of Irrigation Finance Corporation

3528. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an Irrigation Finance Corporation.

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) by when it is likely to be set up; and

(d) how far it will be beneficial to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Setting up of Irrigation Finance Corporation to provide adequate financial assistance to nationally important projects is under consideration. As the matter has a bearing on a number of Centre-State issues including devolution of funds, no definite time frame can be indicated.

(d) Completion of such projects would increase irrigation facilities resulting in benefits to the farmers.

Vacancies of Judges in Madras High Court

3529. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacancies of Judges in Madras High Court to be filled up as on date and the dates from which each post fell vacant;

(b) the date on which the post of Chief Justice of Madras High Court has fallen vacant;

(c) whether any proposal has been received from Tamil Nadu Government to increase the strength of Judges of Madras High Court from 25 to 32; if so, what steps are being taken to fill up the vacancies including that of Chief Justice;